

CARRANZA WOULD GO AHEAD WITH JOINT SESSIONS BY MEDIATORS

First Chief Can't See Why International Palaver Should Not Keep Up for Little While Longer Anyhow.

SAYS REST IS EASY IF TROOPS ARE WITHDRAWN

Copy of Communication Sent to Wilson; American Conference to Meet Tuesday to Consider Situation.

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE) Washington, Dec. 29.—Continuation of the conference of the Mexican-American joint commission, without regard to the question of withdrawing American troops from Mexico, is proposed by General Carranza in his message refusing to ratify the Atlantic City protocol. Coupled with this suggestion, however, is a new proposal for the recall of the Pershing expedition, and a declaration that such action by the United States would permit adjustment of all remaining questions "within a week."

There were indications tonight that the American members of the commission might be disposed to comply with the request for further conferences, on the ground that the United States had nothing to lose by doing so. It was officially stated that nothing yet had occurred to alter the policy of the administration toward Mexico, and it is generally understood that so long as northern Mexico is in its present unsettled state, Pershing's men will stay where they are.

A study of the Carranza communication was sent to President Wilson. Secretary Lane communicated with Dr. J. H. Mott and Judge George Gray, the other members of the American commission, and then announced that they would meet here Tuesday to determine whether further conferences shall be held.

Would Lay Aside Protocol. Carranza points out in his reply that there was nothing in the correspondence that led to the creation of the commission, nor in the credentials and instructions delivered to its members that would preclude discussion of the many other subjects which the commission made incidental to those agreed upon in the protocol. In effect, he suggests that the protocol be laid aside for the present and the work of the commission be laid along fresh channels.

INDICT LEVY BROTHERS FOR MISUSE OF MAILS

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE) Denver, Colo., Dec. 29.—Sam and Max Levy, who until recently conducted brokers' offices in Denver and El Paso, Ariz., today were held to answer to an indictment charging misuse of the United States mails, in a decision rendered by United States Commissioner W. S. Stone. The case was heard and argued last week.

Attorneys for the defendants and the prosecution agreed to submit to Federal Judge R. E. Lewis on Wednesday next week, the question of whether an order should be issued removing the Levy brothers to the federal jurisdiction at Tucson, Ariz., where the indictment was issued.

The Levy brothers closed their offices with liabilities estimated at approximately \$800,000.

CRUDE OIL GOES UP ALL ALONG THE LINE

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE) Houston, Tex., Dec. 29.—General increases in the price of crude oil were announced today by companies with headquarters in Houston. The Gulf Pipe Line company, after announcing a 10-cent increase yesterday of Gulf coast oil, today advanced the price another 19 cents, effective tomorrow. Spindle Top is posted at \$1.65, Edgerly, at 95 cents, and all the other Gulf coast fields at \$1. Other increases are as follows:

Masnoia Oil company, North Texas and Cushing, \$1.40; Corsicana and Heidton, 75 cents, an advance of 10 cents; the Texas company, \$1.40; Caddo light, \$1.40; Cretaceous light, \$1.10, an advance of 10 cents, and De Soto light, \$1.30, an advance of 20 cents.

Bank Robbery in Texas. Sherman, Tex., Dec. 29.—Five robbers blew open the safe of the Hagerman State bank at Hagerman, early today, and escaped in an automobile with \$5,000.

THE WEATHER

WEATHER FORECAST.
Denver, Dec. 29.—New Mexico: Saturday increasing cloudiness, probably rain south portion Saturday afternoon or night; Sunday partly cloudy, not much change in temperature.

LOCAL WEATHER REPORT.
For twenty-four hours, ending at 6 p. m. yesterday:
Maximum temperature, 47 degrees; minimum, 10; range, 37; temperature at 6 p. m., 22; west wind; clear.

SERIOUS FUEL FAMINE THREATENS NEW MEXICO

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE) Santa Fe, N. M., Dec. 29.—With forty to fifty carloads of coal confiscated by the railroads to keep their trains running, and the mines falling more and more behind in output by reason of shortage of labor, New Mexico is threatened with a serious coal famine and appeals have been received by the state corporation commission from a dozen towns for relief.

The commission has wired the chief coal producers at Raton, Gallup and Dawson urging every possible effort be made to increase the output, and has also reported the situation to the federal trade commission. The railroads claim they have plenty of cars. Five hundred additional miners are needed at the Dawson mines alone. The weather has been intensely cold and suffering is feared unless the situation is relieved.

ANSWER TO CARRANZA DETERMINED TUESDAY

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE) Washington, Dec. 29.—What answer will be returned to General Carranza's latest appeal for modifications in the protocol signed at Atlantic City will be determined here Tuesday. On that day the American members of the Mexican-American joint commission will meet and consider the Mexican communication delivered yesterday to Secretary Lane by Luis Cabrera of the Mexican commission.

The Mexicans probably will be here on that day and in the event that the Americans decide Carranza's reply can be given serious consideration, an immediate session of the joint commission may be held.

ACTIVITIES OF SOCIALISTS ARE BEING DISCUSSED

Berlin Newspapers Comment at Length on Work Being Done by Various European Committees.

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE) Berlin, Dec. 29.—(By Wireless to Sayville.)—Berlin newspapers publish numerous dispatches and comment at length on the recent discussions and other activities of socialist committees and congresses in other European countries. The newspapers report, says the Overseas News agency, that while Great Britain permitted delegates of the Danish labor party to visit England, the French minister at Copenhagen refused to give three Scandinavian delegates passports for France, in order to prevent the French socialists from getting into touch with the Scandinavians and from receiving neutral information.

The Vorwarts, commenting on the meeting of the French socialists, says: "The reports of the Havre conference concerning the French convention appear very much adulterated. They apparently contain nothing except what is agreeable to the French government. Private reports are to the effect that an essential increase of peaceful tendencies has taken place. A resolution was proposed to the meeting, urging that the government should not decline peace proposals on principle, but to examine the situation recently created conscientiously."

After discussing the resolutions of the French socialist convention, the Vorwarts refers to the interest shown there concerning the "German peace conditions," and adds: "If these were known in France, then the French people would know that this war, as a war of defense for the existence and honor of France, has terminated and that it can only be continued, if France so wishes, as a Russian war of conquest. The people then would be able to see whether the French nation is ready to run into German machine guns for the Russian emperor."

SPRINKLE PHOENIX STREETS WITH BOOZE

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE) Phoenix, Ariz., Dec. 29.—Five hundred gallons of fine whiskeys, wines and beer were dumped into a city sprinkling cart this afternoon and a procession, led by Dr. H. A. Hughes, Arizona's leading temperance advocate, paraded the business streets, led by a band playing funeral music and followed by 200 automobiles and several floats. The water wagon with its 32,000 cargo was driven by B. W. Getzinger, another dry enthusiast, and its contents flooded the pavements and scented the shopping district like unto a distillery. The booze is the accumulation captured by the sheriff's officers in recent bootlegging raids, and its unique disposition was by order of Superior Judge Stanford.

TEUTONS MAKING GOOD PROGRESS; NEW THRUST IS PUT IN MOTION

Gains Made on Three Sides Against Stiff Resistance in Southern Moldavia; Also Advance Near Dobrudja.

RUMANIAN PROVINCE IS CLEARED OF DEFENDERS

No Activity of Importance Reported From Macedonian and Austro-Italian Theaters of Military Action.

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE) Pressing in upon southern Moldavia from three sides, apparently the central forces are making progress against stiff resistance. On the Transylvanian-Moldavian frontier, in the region north of Rimnik-Sarat, and in the Dobrudja, opposite Braila, Berlin reports, the Austro-German and Bulgarian troops are advancing.

A new thrust seemingly has been started by the Austro-Germans along the Moldavian frontier, thus adding to the difficulties of the Russians and Rumanians, already hard pressed from the south and east. Several lines of new positions and 1,400 prisoners were taken by the invaders in the first day of their offensive into Moldavia from the west, which may have for its purpose the cutting off of the retreat of the Russo-Rumanian troops now operating along the southern Moldavian border.

Along the river Kasova, and west of Coveasa, Petrograd says, Rumanian troops were driven back nearly a mile. A desperate battle also is reported as taking place near Semezo, near Oczana, and within the Moldavian boundary. North of Rimnik-Sarat, all attacks were repulsed, according to Petrograd.

Field Marshal von Mackensen has reached Dumitresti, about twelve miles northwest of Rimnik-Sarat, and northeast of that town, troops under his command have captured several villages. The number of prisoners taken by this army totals 1,400, in addition to cannon and machine guns.

Clean Sweep in Dobrudja.

The Rumanian province of Dobrudja now is almost cleared of defenders, as Berlin says. Racheid, northeast of Machin bridgehead, across the Danube from Braila, has been conquered. Racheid is on the Danube. West of the Meuse, in the Verdun region, the forces of the German crown prince have repulsed attacks by French troops against the new German positions on Le Mort Homme, where second and third line trenches were entered by the Germans and 220 prisoners and seven machine guns taken. Paris admits a slight success for the Germans in this sector, saying that one trench south of Le Mort Homme was entered by the attackers. Other efforts to advance between the Meuse and Avescou and in front of both Le Mort Homme and Hill 304 were repulsed by the French.

Except for some engagements between patrols around Brody, in Galicia, no activity is reported from the eastern Macedonian and Austro-Italian fronts. British and French troops have carried out successful raids on the west front at various points.

YAQUIS REFUSE TO GIVE UP THEIR ARMS

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE) Douglas, Ariz., Dec. 29.—The Yaqui Indian tribe, 2,000 of which, including women and children, are encamped at Lencas, has definitely refused to surrender its arms and ammunition to the Carranza government, according to arrivals here today. The refusal was made known through Mori, the tribal war chief, it was stated.

The Mexican government will continue negotiations in an effort to bring about this end in a peaceable manner, if possible, it was reported, as without surrender of arms on the part of the Indians, the program of division of lands and establishment of the tribe around the village of Bacum, cannot be carried out. The lands offered the tribe were confiscated from the estate of Gen. Luis E. Torres, former governor under Porfirio Diaz, proclamations of seizure having been published recently by the state.

Page Calls on Lloyd-George. London, Dec. 29.—Ambassador Page called on Premier Lloyd-George in Downing street this morning. It was a call of courtesy, offering the American representative his first opportunity of seeing Mr. Lloyd-George since he became premier.

Federal Grand Jury Discharged. Chicago, Dec. 29.—The federal grand jury sworn in last November charged, among other duties, with an investigation of reports of manipulation of food supplies, was discharged today without having returned indictments in that connection.

DE BACA STARTS TRIP HOME WITH TRAINED NURSE IN ATTENDANCE

New Mexico's Governor-elect Braves Death in Order to Fulfill Mission for Which He Was Chosen by People.

FIVE TRANSFUSIONS OF BLOOD PERFORMED

Remarkable Heroism Shown by Sick Man in Determination to Make Long Journey to Take Up Official Duties.

(SPECIAL DISPATCH TO MORNING JOURNAL) Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 29.—Brave death in so doing, Gov.-elect E. C. de Baca, of New Mexico, accompanied by a nurse, Mrs. E. M. Cameron, left the Santa Fe hospital here today for Santa Fe, N. M., the state capital, to take the oath of office there January 1. He left the morning via the Santa Fe railroad at 9 o'clock and will arrive in Santa Fe tomorrow afternoon.

Leaving, Mr. de Baca declared he would keep his promise to be in Santa Fe to take the oath if it meant his death. Governor-elect de Baca has submitted to five blood transfusions. Two of these were performed within the last week at the patient's request, that he may meet the task before him, that of fulfilling the duties of governor with all the strength that science can lend. Added to the vitality gained by artificial agencies, de Baca is amply fortified with the strength of his resolution.

In Hospital a Month. More than a month ago Gov.-elect E. C. de Baca, of New Mexico, became a patient at the Santa Fe hospital at Los Angeles. He has suffered acutely from pernicious anemia since last February, and his illness gave rise to a peculiar crisis in the politics of his state.

Mr. de Baca recently stated that he expected to return to New Mexico and qualify January 1st, the customary date, if he had to be carried there on a stretcher. According to doctors now in attendance, Mr. de Baca is as able to travel today as when he came here, November 19th, from New Mexico. How well his determination can cope with the ordeal before him, inasmuch as he is not yet cured of his ailment, is a matter of speculation.

REPORT VILLA IS NOW MOVING ON CHIHUAHUA CITY

Forces Evacuate Torreon and Proceed North; Bandit Followers Hold Saitillo, Is Claim.

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE) El Paso, Tex., Dec. 29.—Government agents here received an unconfirmed report today that Francisco Villa and his forces were moving north from Torreon in the direction of Chihuahua City with a column of approximately 5,000 men.

Torreon was evacuated by the Villa forces, according to this same source, and was reoccupied by de facto forces. No date was given for the reconquest of the city.

Villa partisans here announced today that forces operating under the banner of Villa had occupied Saltillo, the capital of the state of Coahuila, located between Torreon and Monterrey. The report was denied by Carranza officials here.

Mrs. Arriaga Gonzalez, wife of Governor Gonzalez of Chihuahua, arrived here yesterday from Saltillo with the report that the de facto troops had left there to take the field against Villa forces near Torreon.

Government agents here also received the report today that Saltillo had been occupied by a force claiming to be Villa followers. This report stated that this force had come there from the south and had no connection with Villa's main commands in the vicinity of Torreon.

Torreon Americans Leave for Border. A telegram was received here today by an American mining man from the Americans who fled from Torreon to San Luis Potosi when the Villa forces were advancing on Torreon. The message stated that the Americans would leave there today for the border. The telegram came by way of Monterey to the border and is taken here as an indication that San Luis Potosi is still held by the Carranza forces.

VITAL QUESTION IS DODGED BY MANUFACTURERS OF NEWS PRINT

Hearings Before Trade Commission Abruptly Ended When Matter of Reasonableness of Price Is Brought Up.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE MAY NOW TAKE A HAND

Facts Uncovered in Investigation So Far to Be Submitted to Legal Authorities for Action Deemed Necessary.

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE) Washington, Dec. 29.—Hearings reopened here today by the federal trade commission in its news print paper investigation, came to a sudden end when paper manufacturers refused to discuss the reasonableness of news print paper prices. Both publishers and jobbers had been heard.

The manufacturers declared they had not had time to study tables prepared by the commission's investigators purporting to show huge profits. Members of the trade commission announced that despite an apparent unwillingness by the manufacturers to help in the investigation, the commission's report would be issued probably in about ten days, and that such recommendations to congress would be made as were thought necessary. At the same time it was said the commission would be in a position probably by tomorrow night, to announce whether its consideration of a paper distribution plan showed an actual paper shortage and a need for distribution under supervision of the commission.

Prosecutions Likely. It was strongly intimated that facts uncovered by the commission will be turned over to the department of justice. It was announced that if the commission failed to relieve conditions now being other governmental agency might be able to help. The report to congress, it is understood, will score manufacturers for raising prices to the extent of forcing many small publishers out of business.

Manufacturers proposed the distribution plan at a hearing two weeks ago. Today's hearing was a resumption of that proceeding, interrupted to give the manufacturers time to go over the commission's cost of production figures.

Publishers testifying today, blamed both manufacturers and jobbers for prevailing conditions in the newspaper world. It was declared that the last two had taken advantage of the last two weeks to try to frighten publishers into paying high prices by claiming a shortage existed which would prevent many publishers filling their needs during the coming year. More testimony was brought out also concerning alleged refusals to sell to publishers and regarding different prices quoted by the same manufacturer.

Publishers, it was said, are going ahead rapidly with their plans for constructing new plants, making plans of their own. By the middle of 1917, said A. J. McIntyre, paper expert of the Newspaper Publishers' association, the publishers will be virtually independent of the paper manufacturers.

DIAZ FILIBUSTERING BAND MOVES TO SOUTH

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE) Laredo, Tex., Dec. 29.—Adherents of Felix Diaz, who crossed into Mexico in a small filibustering expedition Christmas night, have moved southward, gathering strength and pushing forward, according to information gathered by federal authorities and made public here tonight. The expedition crossing the Rio Grande at a point north of Nuevo Laredo and on Thursday was reported as having passed Rodriguez.

Soon after crossing into Mexico, the Felixistas, as they are called in Mexico, made prisoners of Federico Villareal, former commander of river guards in Nuevo Laredo, and his son.

The son was released later. Information reaching the federal authorities state that no negotiations have been committed and the campaign for recruits is being conducted by appealing to the patriotism of Mexicans to join the new army to wrest Mexico from its enemies.

BOYD GIRL TOOK OWN LIFE IS TESTIMONY

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE) Des Moines, Ia., Dec. 29.—Kimmage Windener, arrested three weeks ago in Sparta, Ill., charged with the murder of Elizabeth Boyd of Des Moines, was released today following a preliminary hearing. The girl's mother testified that her daughter declared Windener held her while he poured poison down her throat.

MEXICAN CONSTITUTION TO GUARANTEE LIBERTY

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE) Queretaro, Mexico, Dec. 29.—Among the articles adopted today by the constitutional convention was one declaring that no detention must exceed three days without a formal warrant showing the charges, the circumstances of the crime, and the probable guilt of the accused.

The settlement of state boundary disputes is provided for in another article, which also would make the territory of Tepic the state of Nayarit, as formerly.

The legislative power of the country, according to another provision adopted by the convention, would be divided into two houses, one composed of deputies and the other of senators. Deputies would be elected every two years as representatives of the nation as a whole, and each would have an alternate. One deputy would be selected for each 50,000 of population.

DOZEN AEROPLANES TO MAKE EXTENDED FLIGHT

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE) Hempstead, N. Y., Dec. 29.—A flight of twelve airplanes from the aviation field here to Philadelphia, which was postponed on December 15, because of a snowstorm, will be attempted tomorrow morning. Some of the machines will carry passengers, and ten of them will be piloted by United States army aviators. The first flight from the League Island navy yard, Philadelphia, will be made Sunday morning.

Capt. J. E. Carberry, U. S. A., will be the first to start, followed at intervals of one minute by his companions in the air journey.

S. A. E.'s to Meet in Birmingham. Birmingham, Dec. 29.—The Sigma Alpha Epsilon college fraternity, at the closing session of its biennial meeting here today voted to meet in 1917 in Birmingham, Ala., the birthplace of the fraternity. Chapters were granted to petitioning organizations at the University of Nevada, Reno, Nev.; St. Lawrence university, Canton, N. Y.; Colorado Agricultural college, Fort Collins, Colo.; University of Wyoming, Laramie, Wyo.; New Hampshire State college, Durham, N. H.; and University of Arizona, Tucson, Ariz. Petitions from nine colleges and universities were denied.

PEACE SOCIETY TO REORGANIZE UNDER NEW PLAN

Open Meeting of Workers Is Called for January 20 in Washington; Definite Program to Be Considered.

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE) Washington, Dec. 29.—The directors of the American peace society decided today to call an open meeting of peace workers, to be held here January 20 for the purpose of considering a definite program for international reorganization, designed to secure a lasting peace as soon as the present war is over.

A plan to be submitted has been drafted by James Brown Scott, chairman of the American neutrality board, and secretary of the Carnegie endowment for international peace, and is understood to have the approval of Secretary Lansing. Some modification of it is expected to be adopted by those in favor of permanent peace secured by international legislatures, courts and public opinion, as opposed to those who are supporting the suggestion of an international force.

Administration Not Committed. Between these two principles it has been officially stated, the administration has not committed itself. President Wilson has been commonly supposed to support the program of the League to Enforce Peace, having spoken at its meeting here several months ago, and having said in some of his campaign speeches that "the moral force, not only, but the physical force," of this country should be used to guarantee peace. Recently, however, it has been stated that the president is not definitely committed to that program and is open to suggestions along other lines.

The program suggested by Dr. Scott calls first for regular stated meetings of the Hague conference to frame world laws to be referred to the states for ratification, and for a permanent committee of the ambassadors resident at The Hague to continue that work between conferences. All disputes between nations would be handled through a series of courts, as follows:

Those involving law and equity would go to a permanent court whose power would be binding; those not settled by diplomacy to a council of conciliation for investigation and report; those more immediate and serious to a special arbitration board, set up for the present.

New York Tabulates Soldier Vote. Albany, N. Y., Dec. 29.—The tabulation today by the state board of canvassers of the soldier vote showed that the official plurality of Charles E. Hughes over President Wilson in New York was 119,812. The vote stood: Hughes 579,253, Wilson 559,124. Governor Whitman polled 559,929, against Samuel S. Bayard's 556,882, a plurality of 143,147 for Whitman. The governor will be sworn in for his second term on New Year's day.

SOMME BATTLE IS DESCRIBED AS VICTORY FOR ENTENTE ALLIES

General Sir Douglas Haig Gives Detailed Report of Operations From July 1 to November 18 of This Year.

SAYS ATTACKING ARMIES HAD SWEEPING TRIUMPH

Admits That Enemy's Power Is Not Yet Broken, but Says Ultimate Result Is Sure to Be Favorable for England.

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE) London, Dec. 29.—The battle of the Somme is pictured as a sweeping triumph for entente allied arms in a detailed report by Gen. Sir Douglas Haig, which was issued tonight. The report covers operations from July 1 to November 18. General Haig terms the battle a triumph in which the German western armies were only saved from complete collapse and a decisive defeat by a protracted period of unfavorable weather that prevented the Anglo-French forces from taking full advantage of their successful advance. He declares that nevertheless it was a triumph which proved beyond doubt the ability of the allies to overthrow Germany "when the time comes." The British commander shows himself a firm believer in the doctrine that the entente allies can win the war on the western front. "I desire to add a few words as to future prospects," he says, at the close of the dispatch, which covers sixteen closely-printed pages. "The enemy's power has not yet been broken, nor it is yet possible to form an estimate of the time the war may last before the objects for which the allies are fighting have been attained, but the Somme battle has placed beyond doubt the ability of the allies to gain those objects. The German army is the mainstay of the central powers and a full half of that army, despite all advantages of the defensive and supported by the strongest fortifications, suffered defeat on the Somme this year. Neither victors nor vanquished will forget this, and, although bad weather has given the enemy a respite, there undoubtedly are many thousands in his ranks who will be in the new campaign with little confidence in their ability to resist our assaults or overcome our defense."

Determination to Win. "Our new armies entered battle with a determination to win, and confidence in their power to do so. They have proved to themselves, to the enemy, and to the world, that this confidence is justified." The opening of the dispatch outlines the origin of the entente allies' decision to begin the Somme operations. "The principle of an offensive campaign during the summer of 1916 had already been decided on by all the allies," says the report. "Various possible alternatives on the western front had been studied and discussed by General Joffre and myself, and we were in complete agreement as to the front to be attacked by the combined French and British armies. Preparation for the offensive had made considerable progress, but the date was dependent on many doubtful factors. "Subject to the necessity of commencing the operations before summer was too far advanced, and with due regard to the general situation, I desired to postpone such attack as long as possible. The British armies were growing in number and the supply of munitions was steadily increasing, but a large proportion of the officers and men were still far from being fully trained and the longer the attack was deferred, the more efficient they would become."

On the other hand, the Germans were continuing to press their attacks at Verdun, and both there and on the Italian front, where the Austrian offensive was gaining, it was evident that the strain might become too great, unless timely action was taken. Accordingly, I agreed that the attack should be launched whenever the general situation required it, with as great a force as might then be available."

Opening of Russian Campaign. "By the end of May, the pressure on the Italian front has assumed such serious proportions that the Russian campaign was opened early in June, when the successes attained against the Austrians at once caused a movement of German troops from the western to the eastern front. This did not lessen the pressure on Verdun, and it was agreed that the combined French and British offensive would not be postponed beyond the end of June."

"The object of that offensive was to relieve pressure on Verdun, to assist our allies by stopping further transfer of German troops from the western front, and to wear down the strength of the enemy."

General Haig sums up the results as follows: "Three main objects with which we commenced the offensive in July already had been achieved in spite of